VZCZCXYZ0020 PP RIJEHWEB

DE RUEHUP #0216 0791138
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 201138Z MAR 09
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4000
INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0695
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0462
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 000216

STPDTS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CE JAMIE LAMORE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/18/2019 TAGS: <u>PREL PBTS MOPS RS GG HU</u>

SUBJECT: HUNGARY SUPPORTS U.S. POSITION ON RUSSIAN

RECOGNITION OF ABKHAZIA AND SOUTH OSSETIA

REF: A. SECSTATE 24186

¶B. 08 BUDAPEST 849 AND PREVIOUS

¶C. BUDAPEST 0004

Classified By: Acting P/E Counselor Jon Martinson, reasons 1.4 (b,d)

(C) MFA Russia Department Deputy EU Affairs Coordinator Peter Nagy discussed ref A with PolOff on March 19. Nagy stated that the GOH supports the U.S. views outlined in the demarche, highlighting previous statements by Prime Minister Gyurcsany and Foreign Minister Goncz (ref B). Referring to Belarus' possible recognition of the two break-away regions, Nagy commented that the Belarus legislature is scheduled to address the recognition issue on April 1, and if they approve recognition, he doubts that Lukashenko would be invited to the EU "Eastern Partnership" meeting scheduled for May. Queried as to whether Russia's Budapest Embassy has approached the GOH to recognize or accept diplomats as representing South Ossetia or Abkhazia, Nagy replied that there have been no such requests.